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FLOOR DEBATE

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before it was voted on. I think that Senator Kremer probably got us...got to the point as well as any of us could and I'm pleased with the amount of talk that rural senators have provided. This piece of legislation I wouldn't feel quite so badly about if we had not lost that \$22 million in state aid, because that provides a direct hit to all of Nebraska, but especially to the people that are on the farms and ranches that have a large share of that property tax to pay. So everything that we've put across there is a hit on rural Nebraska--the income tax, the tax on repairs. And I don't, you know, I just hate to keep reminding you, and Senator Kremer said the same thing, but the people that I represent in rural Nebraska are in a world of hurt. Those people on those farms and ranches just cannot afford these kind of issues that you're talking about. We talk about the straw that broke the camel's back. This is...this is sure one of them. So I'm not going to support the piece of legislation either. Now, if you can show me some...some way that we can get that state aid put back in, then talk to me again about this bill. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Dierks. Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. My feelings are...been expressed ahead of me. I voted to advance this bill simply because I thought it was time to get it up to Select where we could talk about some of these things at length, and I think we're going to. I agree that, first of all, I think the issue with the money we took away from these schools, and particularly schools that I represent, has been a disaster, and if we can find some way to heal some of that I can feel comfortable with; I can tell you right now I will not vote to advance this bill any further unless we can sit down and talk about some of these things that...that you've been hearing from some of the other rural senators that are very devastating for the young farmer who's out there trying to make it. As Senator Jones said, we can't pass any of this stuff on as you can with some of these issues. But, as I said, I voted to advance this simply because I think we need to move on at this point and talk about some of these things on Select, and then make a decision. And if we can't make any better decision than we've made up to now, I just won't support this, this bill, for any further...to